common branches of education, and also to impart to them a greater quantity of knowledge in three months than could be obtained by twelve months' elaborate teaching by any other mode of instruction. The office of schoolmaster should be made, in a pecuniary way, respectable; the public should see and acknowledge the respectability of the office by the appearance of the functionary himself and his family. The fixed salary and the reward for professional zeal and fidelity should make the emoluments of a metropolitan national schoolmaster amount to at least 250*l.* per annum. The emoluments of a provincial master should vary from 150*l.* per annum to something near the metropolitan standard. No system of instruction, however perfect in arrangement, can work well in practice, unless the situations of masters in our national schools are well paid, and considered as objects of honourable ambition.

In conclusion, the lecturer made an eloquent appeal to the opulent classes to assist in extending the blessings of education: it was an object for the display of the noblest Christian philanthropy.

The subject was exceedingly well received by a numerous and highly respectable audience, and the oratorical ability which Mr. Bell shewed in the delivery of the lectures rendered them highly interesting and instructive.

NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

House of Commons.—May 26.

Lord Wharncliffe rose to answer the question which had been put to him on a former night by a noble and learned lord (Lord Brougham) relative to the proceeding with the building of the new House of Lords. Since the question had been asked of him, he had made inquiry into the reason of the delay in not proceeding with the building, and was informed that a certain description of stone necessary for a portion of the work had not arrived; but that the invoice had now arrived of the stone in question, and that the material itself might be expected soon, when the work would be at once proceeded with.

Lord Colborne thought it was impossible that the new House of Lords could be ready by the time specified next year, and it was fallacious to expect that the house for their lordships' accommodation would be erected as speedily as had been imagined.

Lord Wharncliffe said that the committee entertained a different opinion, after examining three or four witnesses, among whom was the architect himself, on the subject. There was no reason for believing that the House of Lords would not be completed in the time that had been mentioned.

Lord Brougham believed that had his noble friend behind him (Lord Colborne) been in attendance on the committee, he would not have deemed it impossible that the new house could be erected in the specified time, for the witnesses described that it could.

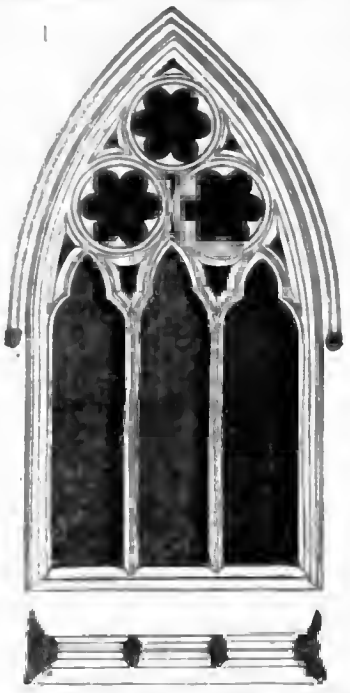
Earl Fitzwilliam thought that his noble friend was impatient upon the subject—(laughter)—and he (Lord Fitzwilliam) must say, that in his opinion the new house would not be so comfortable for their lordships as the present one. Besides which, nine days out of ten it was quite large enough for the peers who attended, and he was not aware that any accession to the peerage was anticipated to require a larger house.

Lord Brougham—I am of opinion that the peers are quite numerous enough already, and indeed a part of them might be spared—(loud laughing). But I can only say, in reply to the observation of my noble friend, that if he would attend here in a morning——

Earl Fitzwilliam—In a morning!

Lord Brougham—If my noble friend would only attend in a morning, my noble friend might benefit by it—(laughter); and he would, I am satisfied, quite agree with me in thinking it was time that we had better accommodation in respect of the climate, for it cannot be described to this house what an inconvenience we experience on that account—(renewed laughter).

Earl Fitzwilliam—If I were to attend in a morning I might learn a great deal of law certainly, but I very much doubt whether it would be for the benefit of the suitor.



WINDOW IN THE NORTH SIDE OF BALSALL TEMPLE CHURCH, WARWICKSHIRE.

This is one of a series of beautiful windows of this truly interesting church. We are sorry to perceive, by a Coventry paper, that certain repairs are now going forward in that church, and particularly with reference to the glazing of these windows, in a very bungling and careless spirit. The conservators of that structure must be strangely dull to the emotions which their office excites to, having the custody of so noble a relic of the once renowned Templars, if they permit the necessary repairs to be deferred, or, when taken in hand, to be executed in an irreverent and slovenly manner; and we trust that this, with other remonstrances, may fall in their way, to assert from the church the calumny, and from themselves the disgrace, of any such apprehended dereliction of their duty.

TRINITY-HOUSE NEW CHAPEL.

The new and enlarged place of worship required for the reception of the Corporation of Trinity-House and their resident and out-pensioners, the erection of which has been in progress during the past three years, is just on the eve of completion. The interior presents the appearance of a Grecian temple; and for chasteness of design, justness of proportion, and elegance in execution, will stand unrivalled by any other religious edifice in the town. The dimensions are, from the western entrance to the altar, 77 feet; breadth of the building, 37 feet; width of the aisle, 10 feet; height, 43 feet, from the pavement to the apex of the ceiling—a splendid piece of vaulted architecture, in which the graduating proportions of each panel and moulding have been most admirably observed. The pillars and pilasters by which the whole is sustained are entirely of alba veined Italian marble, the capitals of each having the marine emblems of a dolphin and an anchor inserted in the foliage. Beside these pillars, there are two circular columns, sixteen feet in height, and about two in circumference at the base, forming a frontis support to the semi-dome over the altar-table; and which, from their being composed of a native substance, demand a particular notice. Externally they are formed of the arborescent marble found on the Duke of Devonshire's estates, at Hartington, and have been prepared at the marble-works of Mr. Milnes, of Ashford, expressly for the Trinity-House. The body of each column is formed of grit-stone, over which a *revêtement* of many hundred pieces of marble is attached, by a strong and imperishable cement, in so scientific a manner, as to leave no doubt in the mind of the general spectator that each column is constructed of a solid block of marble, and their extreme beauty excites the admiration of all who view them. The ground of the marble is a deep yellow, of various shades, intersected in different directions by red lines; it is susceptible of the highest polish, and the surface being richly arborescent, presents the most delicate appearances of foliage, &c., as if produced by the elaborate working of an artist's pencil. The oriel window in the rear of these columns is of stained glass, by a London artist, the central compartment presenting an impressive representation of the Ascension of our Saviour. The other windows are semicircular, and entirely formed of coloured glass, tastefully arranged by Howe, of Hull; the largest, at the western end, is emblazoned with the Royal Arms, those on either side displaying, in a similar manner, the armorial bearings of the Port and the Corporation of the Trinity-House. The windows, it will thus be seen, are but four in number, yet from the size of the last-named three and their lofty elevation, a powerful light is admitted, and which, being received through a medium of stained glass, acquires that subdued character so desirable in religious edifices. The altar-table is of pure statuary marble, supported by an ancient eagle elaborately gilded. The pulpit and reading-desk, together with the fronts of the pews and sittings, and a gallery over the west entrance, are of solid oak, excellently worked and brought to the highest degree of polish. The pavement of the commodious aisle is a curious specimen of the workman's skill, diversified throughout in rouge royal, black and gold, and white-veined marbles, it progresses from the western entrance in different compartments, the last forming a faithful sketch of the mariner's compass, save that the magnetic point diverges appropriately to the east, as attracted by the altar. The most approved hot-water apparatus for regulating the temperature of the building is carried through beneath the marble floor. The effect is excellent, and completes the designs of the architect, Mr. Lockwood.—*Hull Packet.*

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

May 23.

Some interesting specimens of unburnt bricks from the Pyramids of Dashoor (Egypt) were exhibited by Mr. Newton. From the description by Mr. Perring, who brought them to England, it appeared that they were made from the alluvial soil of the valley of the Nile, mixed up with chopped straw; that they were made with cavities in the sides, like the modern bricks, and that the interior of the Pyramids was formed of arches, the bricks composing them being either packed behind with pieces of flat pottery, or cut away to radiate equally from the centre. There existed at Thebes some extensive ranges of arches of about twelve feet span, the bricks of which they were built bearing the name of Sesostris, and consequently they must have stood uninjured upwards of 3,180 years; the arches were turned in concentric half-brick rings. —Captain Handcock produced a brass and cone of his improved axle, which had been used under an engine on the Southampton Railway, and had run upwards of 21,000 miles; the brass scarcely exhibited any signs of wear, while a brass of an axle of the old form, which had only run 8,000 miles, was nearly one inch shorter than when it was first put on, besides having worn considerably into the journal and the box. He stated that the system was approved of by General Pasley, who would have been present to confirm the statement, but for an unavoidable visit to Spithead.—The first part was read of a paper by Mr. Mallet, M. Inst. C. E., on "The Action of Air and Water upon Cast and Wrought Iron and Steel;" but as, from its length, the second part was necessarily reserved until the next meeting, the whole will be noticed together.—The meeting was adjourned until Tuesday evening, May 30th, when the following papers will be read: —No. 620, the second part, "On the Durability of Iron Ships, the method of preventing their corrosion and becoming foul, by the application of a coating of alloy of zinc of varnish and a poisonous paint," by R. Mallet, M. Inst. C. E. No. 584, "Description of an Improved Arrangement of a Surveying Instrument," by H. Carr, Grad. Inst. C. E.

Manchester.—On Friday, the 5th Instant, the corner-stone of a new church about to be erected by the Manchester and Eccles Church Building Society, was laid by J. C. Harter, Esq. The site of the church is a plot of ground in the township of Cheetham, situate at the corner of Derby-street, Redbank, which has been purchased for the purpose from the Earl of Derby.